necessary, and approriate action ranging from warning letters, even termination of distributorships in some cases, is taken against the erring LPG distributors in accordance with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Petro-chemical Projects

1891. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petro-chemical projects functioning at present or set up so far in the country;

(b) the names of the places where these projects have been set up;

(c) the dates on which the Central Government cleared those projects, project-wise; and

(d) the dates on which projects reports were submitted?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) At present there are 62 major petrochemical projects in the country, located in the States of Andhra Pradesh; Assam; Gujarat; Haryana; Madhya Pradesh; Maharashtra; Orissa; Punjab; Rajasthan; Tamil Nadu; Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(c) and (d) The above projects have been set up over a period of time commencing from Sixties, after due approval on techno-economic consideration.

Bulk Drug for Alupent Tablets

1892. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 635 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th February, 1988 and state the name of the main bulk drug from which Alupent Tablets are manufactured?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): Alupent tablets are manufactured from the bulk drug Orciprenaline Sulphate.

Price Control on Moisol Eye Drops

1893. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 635 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th February, 1988 and state:

(a) whether Moisol Eye drops are used for control of blindness;

(b) what is the bulk drug on which this eye drop is based;

(c) what was the price of the bulk drug before the announcement of DPCO, 1987 and what is the present price;

(d) whether the manufacturer of these Eye drops provided the information as required under DPCO, 1987 before increasing the price by 73 per cent; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Moisol Eye Drops and used in the treatment of diseases of the eye.

(b) Names of the various ingredients of this product are given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Ingredient
1	Sodium Chloride IP
2	Potassium Chloride IP
3	Borax IP
4	Boric Acid
5	Benzalkonium Chloride
6	Hydroxy Propyl Methyl Cellulose.

(c) The price of Boric Acid under DPCO, 1979 was Rs. 8.46/Kg. and it is now decontrolled.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Moisol Eye Drops, being a non-scheduled formulation, the manufacturers are free to revise the prices of their product as per provisions of DPCO, 1987.

Indigenous production of machine tools

1894. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last one decade ending 1987 there

has been a sharp rise in the import of machine tools;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the import increased at double the rate of increase in indigenous production;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) what is the annual indigenous production and import during this decade;

(e) whether Government have any plan to boost up indigenous production and restrict import; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a), (b) and (d) According to information available with the Government, the details of production and imports of machine tools during the year 1978, 1986 and 1987 are as under:—

Year	Production (Rs. crores)	Imports
1978 . . .	121	40
1986 . . .	325	250*
1987 . .	370*	200*

*(Estimated figures)

(c) The main reason for the larger import of machine tools in recent years has been the shifting pattern of demand from conventional machine tools to special purpose and CNC machine tools. The industry is in the process of adjusting to this shift in demand.

(e) and (f) Government have encouraged foreign collaborations for import of modern technology for the Machine Tool Sector to enable the indigenous manufacturers to upgrade their technological standards. Government have also introduced a Technology Upgradation Scheme in August, 1987 for selected capital goods industries including machine tools. In terms of this scheme, specified items of capital equipments required for the manufacture of machine tools have been allowed to be imported on a concessional rate of import duty of 35 per cent. In the budget of 1988-89, the excise duty in CNC systems has been reduced to 5 per cent *ad valorem*. The customs duty on the import of CNC systems and their parts has also been reduced from 80 per cent to 55 per cent *ad valorem*. These will help the machine tool industry to modernise and upgrade technology. As regards the restriction of imports of machine tools, the imports are allowed after taking into account the indigenous capability and in accordance with the imoprt policy in force.

Rural Postal Network

1895. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of Plan funds spent on the rural postal services during 1985-86 and 1986-87 and the funds proposed to be spent during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(b) the percentage of Plan funds spent in suburban and rural areas separately during the same period, year-wise and

(c) the figures regarding the total income from rural post offices and actual expenditure on rural postal network during 1985-86 and 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Information for the period 1985-86 to 1988-89 is furnished in the annexed statement. *See* below. The position in respect of 1989-90 can be indicated only when the Annual Plan for that year is finalised towards the end of 1988-89.

(b) It is not feasibe to allocate Plan expenditure as between "Urban", "suburban" and "rural" because the budgetary heads which are prevalent at present do not provide for such a distinction except for the limited purpose of opening of new post offices covered in part (a) of the reply.